



U.S. Department of Justice
United States Attorney
District of Kansas

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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TOPEKA MAN SENTENCED ON GUN CHARGES

TOPEKA, Kan. – United States Attorney Eric Melgren announced that **Howard Wayne Taylor, Jr.**, 24, Topeka, Kansas, was sentenced on December 8, 2003, by U.S. District Judge Julie A. Robinson to **forty-six months in federal prison, without parole, to be followed by two years of supervised release.**

Melgren said that Taylor entered a guilty plea on September 15, 2003, to being a felon in possession of a handgun.

Melgren said that Taylor admitted at his plea that on July 11, 2003, officers with the Topeka Police Department were searching for Taylor on an unrelated matter and found Taylor in an automobile in the parking lot of a local business in Topeka holding a handgun. Taylor further admitted that he dropped the weapon and ran from the officers. Taylor was arrested and a semi-automatic pistol was found in the vehicle. Taylor further admitted that he had previously been convicted of a felony in Shawnee County, Kansas.

Melgren commended the excellent work of the Topeka Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives Task Force in this investigation.

This news release is now available at www.usdoj.gov/usao/ks/.